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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

11 October 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

FROM : James R. Lilley  
National Intelligence Officer for China

SUBJECT : Intelligence -- Meeting on China

1. The Director of Central Intelligence has for the past several months been reviewing community organization and procedures for providing the President and the NSC adequate and timely warning of developing situations abroad which affect major US interests. The purpose of this review is to assure that analysts and collectors are sensitized to their alerting responsibilities and that there is an opportunity to question and challenge analytical conclusions on China.

2. As part of the arrangements the various regional NIO's have been given major substantive responsibility for guarding against surprise in their respective regions. They have been directed to meet once a month with their colleagues in the community -- to review developing situations and the adequacies of data with respect to them -- to question the interpretations that have been placed on that data -- and to look two or three months ahead for areas of uncertainty that should be sources of concern.

3. On the basis of this discussion the NIO will draft a brief report that will be transmitted monthly through Richard Lehman, NIO/Warning, and the Director, NFAC to the DCI.

4. Pursuant to the above I am inviting you or your representative to the first monthly meeting on China on Thursday, 19 October at 2:00 in the 7E32 Conference Room at Langley Headquarters. Mr. Richard Lehman, NIO/Warning will be available to brief you on how the new system is intended to work. Please provide the name of your representative to

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